

DILLSBURG BANNER



BULK RATE
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #18
Dillsburg PA 17019

Volume IV

Number 9

March 1, 1990

Twenty-five Cents

Babysitter faces criminal homicide charges

By John Zitto

Charges have been filed against Theresa Marie Wagner, 22, of 5B Kenray Avenue, Dover, for her alleged connection in the death of 18-month old Crystal Seachrist.

Wagner, who was the child's babysitter, has been charged with criminal homicide and endangering the welfare of children. Crystal Seachrist was the daughter of Ellen Yost Seachrist of East Berlin and Rick F. Seachrist of Mechanicsburg.

According to Northern Regional Police, the Seachrist child suffered a fractured skull while under the supervision of Theresa Wagner. The baby was pronounced dead February 15 at Polyclinic Hospital in Harrisburg.

The autopsy was performed by Dr. Isadore Mihalakis, a neurosurgeon of Lehigh Valley Hospital Center. Due to the seriousness of the head injuries involved, a neurosurgeon was needed to perform the autopsy, said Dauphin County Coroner Graham Hetrick.

According to Hetrick the autopsy revealed "inner-cranial bleeding." Hetrick said, "We

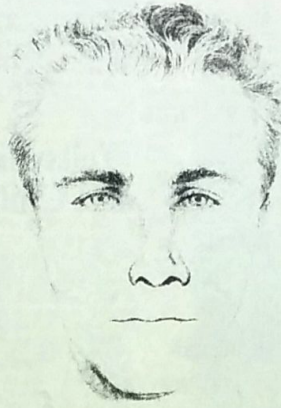
didn't feel that the injuries were consistent with the fall, therefore the nature of the death had to be homicide."

Hetrick said full x-rays were also taken and the information was relayed to the Attorney General's Child Abuse Board.

Wagner was arraigned in York County on March 1 by Emanuel Cassimatis and is currently in custody at York County Prison.

According to District Attorney Stanley Rebert's office, the maximum sentence for criminal homicide involves several variables. If the county finds it is first degree murder, the death penalty may be sought. If the death penalty does not apply, then the penalty would be life imprisonment.

If third degree murder is the verdict then Wagner would face a maximum of 10 to 20 years in prison. If Wagner is convicted of a misdemeanor of the first degree, the maximum sentence would be 5 years, with two and one half to five years of actual prison time.



WANTED

White male, mid 20's, brown curly hair, driving a mid-sized light blue, 4-door vehicle with a white strip on the side.

On March 5, 1990 at 8:20 a.m. the subject stopped vehicle in the 200 block of Capitol Hill Rd., Franklin Township and spoke with a white, female, 12 year old, waiting for her bus. Subject tried to lure her into the vehicle. Subject was unsuccessful and drove away.

Anyone with information, please contact Detective LaPorta of the Dillsburg Police Department at (717) 432-2237 (Station), 911 (York County area), or at (717) 766-0249 if not in the county.

Brave efforts of Dillsburg man saves life

By John Zitto

"If it wouldn't have been for him, that man would have burned to death." These were the words of Joseph A. Staub of Dillsburg as he described the heroic efforts of his neighbor, Kenneth Weary, 34, who bravely pulled a man from a burning car along Route 74 in front of Cumberland Valley Brethren in Christ Church.

Weary is credited with saving the life of Daniel A. Garonzik, 26, of 35 Trine Avenue in Mount Holly Springs. According to State Police, Garonzik was traveling in his LTD West on Route 74 near Brandtsville at approximately 12:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 6, when he lost control of his vehicle and crossed over to the East bound lane, and then back to the West lane, striking a utility pole and flipping over. The accident took place in front of Staub's residence, 1070 York Road.

According to Staub his barefooted neighbor rushed over to his house and called police about a car accident which took place in front of his home.

Weary said he went to Staub's because the crash had caused power outage at his house. Weary grabbed two fire extinguishers from Staub and began his efforts to extinguish the fire in the front of the Ford LTD.

The vehicle struck a utility pole just outside their home.

Staub said it was after his efforts to put out the fire failed when he went ahead and pulled the man out of the car.

"The man was a pretty big guy. I don't see how he could have done it," said Staub in reference to the efforts of his neighbor.

State Police also confirmed, "If it had not been for Weary's quick thinking the driver would have been burned alive."

According to Staub, the driver "managed to loosen his belt, but couldn't get out of the vehicle." Weary said, "Within minutes after I got him out of the car it was completely engulfed in flames."

Garonzik was the only passenger in the car. He was taken to Harrisburg Hospital and is currently listed in fair condition suffering from multiple contusions, including two broken legs. Hospital officials said that Garonzik didn't suffer any burns from the incident and his condition should be upgraded in the next few days.

Kenneth Weary is employed by Agrotros, Gettysburg as a helicopter mechanic. He and his wife were asleep at the time of the accident.

Board OK's Strip mall

by Mary Lou Bylot

The Carroll Township Board of Supervisors Tuesday evening unanimously approved the preliminary land development plan for a strip shopping center to be located off Route 15, between Orebank and Siddonsburg Roads.

The preliminary plan was presented by Frank Nardo of York Associates.

Supervisor Norman H. Shelly Jr. reassured residents that a traffic study is underway. The approval of a final plan will be contingent on the results of the study, he said.

The 39-acre tract is divided into three lots. As the plan now appears, the shopping center will be flanked by two fast food restaurants—one on Siddonsburg Road (Lot #1) and one on Orebank Road (Lot #2).

Lot #1 also will include a grocery store, bank, department store, small retail store, and a drug store. The department and grocery stores will be located along Siddonsburg and Orebank Roads, respectively, according to the preliminary plan.

Resident John Lane asked the supervisors to consider a security study, in addition to a traffic study, for the vicinity of the center. He also asked whether the township supervisors could place any restrictions on the types of businesses that lease in the shopping center.

Heavy construction equipment is damaging our roads, Lane also told the supervisors. He asked the board to consider holding general contractors responsible for maintaining the existing condition of the roads they frequently use.

Larry Eichelberger, chairman of the board of supervisors, asked Lane to submit his requests in writing.

Because the shopping center will increase traffic volume on Orebank Road, the township should consider that road a top priority, Supervisor Shelly said.

However, residents along West Ridge Road would like to have the township repair their road. Andrew Smith of West Ridge Road, presented the supervisors a petition requesting the township to blacktop the

unpaved section of the road from the Nailor residence to the Monaghan Township line. The petition was signed by approximately 20 residents who live along the road, Smith said.

Alan Pollard, another West Ridge Road resident, told the supervisors that the road condition is so poor that school buses will not travel it.

"It is very unlikely to include that road for blacktopping for this year or next year," Shelly told Smith, citing budget shortages. "The road would have to be widened and straightened," the supervisor explained. "There are too many hairpin turns and blind driveways."

The road is narrow, winding, and the steep slope allows for stones to wash away, Smith told the supervisors. "The township puts stone on the road five to six times a year. That also must be expensive," he added.

Traffic has increased considerably on West Ridge Road, Smith said. There are two or three new homes on the hill, and some drivers use the road as a shortcut to Ski Roundtop, he added.

Smith said Carroll Township police officers have told him they sometimes travel the road when responding to a call in Monaghan Township, which they also patrol.

In other business, Jerry Yocum, Monaghan Township fire chief, and Bob McDermitt, Franklin Township Fire Company assistant chief, asked the supervisors whether the township's contracts with the Monaghan, Franklin Township, and Dillsburg fire companies are similar. They said there is a question concerning the chain of command among the three companies in Carroll Township.

Supervisor Larry Eichelberger told the chiefs that he is glad they came to the meeting. Although he was unable to give them a definite answer concerning the contracts at that time, he said he will begin immediately to check into the matter.

A rash of bad will has been erupting among Citizens House Company in Dillsburg and the fire companies represented at the meeting. The rift, which existed



Dillsburg firefighters respond to single vehicle crash along Route 74 in front of the Cumberland Valley Brethren in Christ Church early Tuesday morning. Kenneth Weary pulled the victim from the vehicle shortly before it burst into flames.

Photo by Mark Ryder

Dillsburg man killed in one car crash

By John Zitto

An early morning accident last Friday claimed the life of Kyle P. Richwine, 26, of the 2600 block of County Line Road, York Springs.

According to Carroll Township Police, Richwine was traveling south on Campground Road at an apparent high rate of speed in his 1976 Chevy Cheyenne pick-up truck, when he failed to negotiate a left hand curve in the roadway. He then ran over a reflective warning post, left the road, striking and shearing off a utility pole.

The truck then struck a tree alongside the road causing Richwine (who was not wearing his safety belt) to be thrown out of the passenger's window.

According to York County Coroner Kathryn Olewiler, the victim suffered multiple skull fractures and was pronounced dead at 2:25 a.m.

Although results from a blood alcohol test are not in, Police believe alcohol was involved.

PAC to meet

The Parent Advisory Committee of Northern York School District will have as guest speaker at the March meeting, Dr. Kenneth B. Woodbury, Jr., President of Harrisburg Area Community College. Dr. Woodbury's talk will focus on the variety of program offerings at HACC, the colleges' importance on the community and what it means to be a participating school district.

All residents of the district are encouraged to attend. Please be sure to mark Monday, March 26th on your calendar. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Northern High School Cafeteria.